

# The Bell Ringer

Montgomery Bell Academy

4001 Harding Road Nashville, TN 37205

October 6, 2000

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## HOME COMING 2000

### Football Is Ready For McCallie

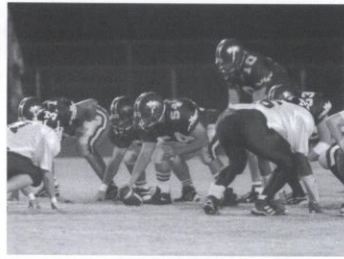
by Ryan Holt

Going into Homecoming weekend, the Big Red football squad has an intimidating record of 6-1 and retains its USA Today national ranking of twenty-fifth.

Since the loss to Bolles School in Jacksonville, the team has regrouped well with wins over MUS, Pearl-Cohn, and rival Brentwood Academy.

After trouncing a mediocre Pearl-Cohn team, the Big Red had BA to look forward to last week. The rivalry between these two teams has gone back for years and has recently been fueled by the addition of former MBA offensive coordinator Tom Moore as the BA head

coach. Brentwood was full of their overconfidence became evident in



Martin and last year's Big Red offense line up against McCallie, in what was a hard fought win for MBA.

confidence after coming off a win against a school from Mississippi, and

*The Tennessean's* game day preview of the matchup last Friday. Quarterback Jesse Kellogg was quoted as saying that BA had better athletes than the Big Red squad, and that he felt his team would easily win.

The Big Red, already inspired by the rivalry and an intense week of practice, shrugged off Kellogg's comments while mentally preparing for the night's game. The bus was dead silent during the twenty-minute ride

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### Damn Yankees a Hit with Record Six Shows

by Patrick Gibbs

This year's play season opened with a brilliant rendition of the musical *Damn Yankees*. The play starred Jon Voigt as Joe Hardy, Johnathan Batchelor as Joe Boyd, Audrey Ball as Lola, Liz Edwards as Meg Boyd, Aaron Manier as the diabolic Applegate, and many other aspiring actors.

The script of the play was



Applegate, played by Aaron Manier (left) tries here to swindle Joe Boyd, played by Jonathon Batchelor (right) into making the big deal.

hilarious in itself, but the original input of this particular performance was excellent.

Dr. Fuller did an outstanding job of directing and casting the play. By starting practice in the summer and choosing the perfect cast, Dr. Fuller ensured a magnificent performance. The contrast between the old Joe Boyd

continued on p. 6

### The Spaghetti Supper Serves MBA Community and More

by Michael Pass

For the past few months, seventy-five committee chairs along with Cathy Shell and Martha Nemer have been organizing this year's 56<sup>th</sup> annual spaghetti supper. They expect to feed spaghetti, salad, breadsticks, brownies, and drinks to over 3500 people. The supper also raises over 40,000 dollars that will be used exclusively for faculty purposes. The committee chairs, mothers, fathers, and other volunteers have not only food to think about, but also decorations, table cloths, a bake sale, prizes, fireworks, an ice sculpture, servers, clean-up, take-out orders, and publicity.

Students do their part for the supper by selling a minimum of 10 tickets each. Great prizes are given away to top sellers and winners of a

weekly drawing as an incentive for students to sell extra tickets. Seniors Adam Brooks, Cal Alexander, Jesse Bull, and Hunter Huston have put on



MBA students show their support for the Second Harvest Food drive.

skits and made a movie in order to help remind everyone the importance of selling tickets.

Every year, the Spaghetti Supper raises the necessary money for faculty members to do many wonderful things. Last year it paid for such things as: lacrosse helmets, weight lifting shoes, Lexis-Nexis

Scholastic subscription, a CTX EZ Pro Projector, a Digital Balance for science labs, a Plate Tectonics Model, a tenor saxophone, a Groves Dictionary of Art, a Paper Folding Machine, and an array of other great things.

This year MBA is also using the event for purposes of charity. The idea of the undertaking is that everyone in Nashville, not just those at this Homecoming event, should be able to have a spaghetti supper. The MBA Mothers Club is requesting that as many people as possible bring spaghetti sauce, canned noodles of any sort, or really just any canned foods to be given to the Second Harvest Food Bank. There will be boxes outside the gym for dropping off these items, so please support the drive and bring in what you can.

The Spaghetti Supper brings many generations of MBA students, alumni, faculty, and friends of the school together in one of the school's biggest community-building events.



## Homecoming Edition 3

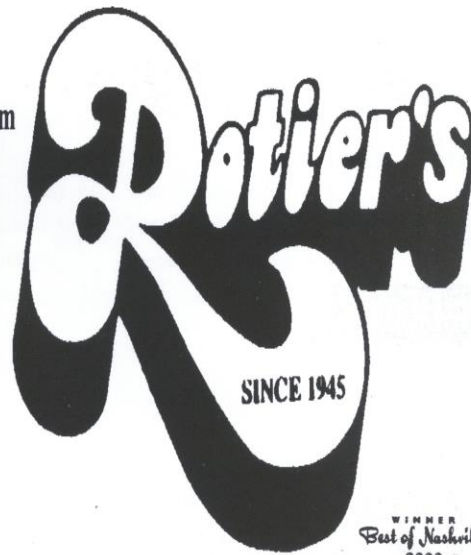
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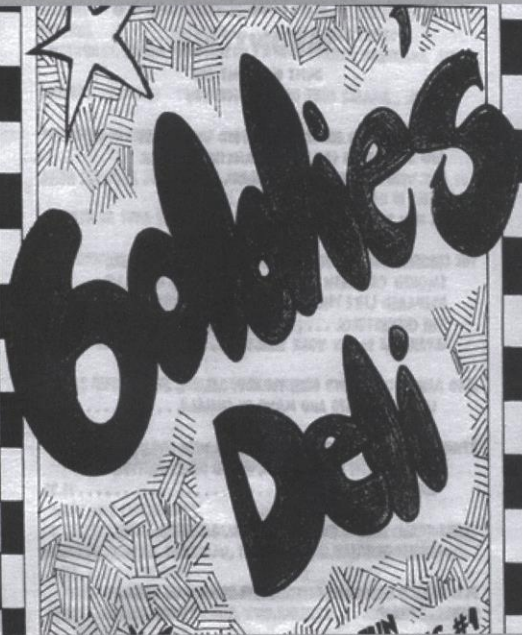
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# Homecoming Edition 5

## Olympics Tainted by Controversy

by Steven Syverud

As the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia, came to a dramatic close, the United States emerged as the overwhelming victor, yet American athletics were widely criticized around the world. The United States defeated Russia and China in overall medal finishes with 97, to Russia's 88 and China's 59; the Americans also claimed more gold medal finishes, garnering 39 to Russia's 32 and China's 28.

These amazing results, however, were arguably tainted by the conduct of America's finest athletes. In the first days of the Olympics, American swimmer Gary Hall stirred controversy when he jokingly said of the Australian swimmers "...we will smash them like guitars." Indeed the Americans did smash the Australians in swimming competitions, winning 14 events, roughly 40 percent of the total, and placing in 19 others.

America's track and field athletes also ran away with the field, picking up 20 medals--12 more than second place Ethiopia.

Yet these athletes came under fire as well because of the conduct of their men's 4x100 meter relay team. After capturing a gold medal, this relay team ran a victory lap that turned a stadium filled with over 100,000 spectators against them. As they rounded the track they pranced and clowned, stopping frequently to pose for cameras and flex their muscles. They were met with a loud chorus of whistling, the Australian equivalent to booing. As the Americans made it to the medal podium and The Star Spangled Banner was playing, however, their clowning continued. They were later openly criticized by their fellow American runners.

Even in basketball, a sport in

which American men have been untouchable in recent history, America

opponents' that their close games seem to be a result of a weak effort. Said Lithuania's Sarunas Jasikevicius,



The American 4x100 meter relay team celebrates its gold medal victory.

faced criticism from the rest of the world. The Americans did win the gold medal,

but they didn't win by the margin expected by a team of their caliber. In a semifinal game that came down to the final shot, they squeaked out an 85-83 win over lowly Lithuania. Then in the gold medal game they won 75-65 over France, who had pulled within four

of the US with four minutes left to go in the game. The US Dream Teams that won gold medals in 1992 and 1996 won every game by at least 22 points. This team was lacking some star power, as Tim Duncan, Grant Hill, Kobe Bryant, and Shaquille O'Neal did not even attend the Olympics, but the Americans had a talent level so far above their

Voy, the former chief medical officer of the US Olympic Committee, claimed in an affidavit that that the U.S. Olympic committee was involved in covering up positive drug tests of American athletes. Voy also stated, "Based on my experience and expertise, I believe the use of performance enhancing drugs is common among American Olympic-level athletes."

These incidents have tainted Olympic games of which Americans could have been truly proud. These games could have served as a shining example of American excellence on an international stage.

American 4x1600 meter relay member, Antonio Pettigrew, said, "We have an image to portray, we represent the USA proudly and there's a time and a place for everything." Pettigrew is right: the embarrassing conduct of these American Olympians could not have come at a worse time or in worse place.

"They're treating this like a vacation." To top off all the controversy, Dr. Robert

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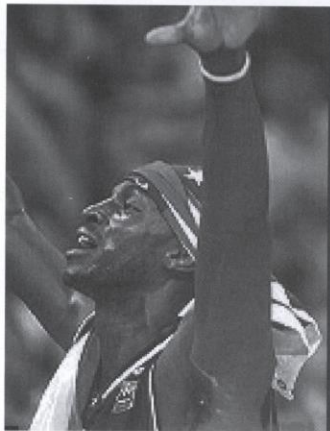
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Letters to the editor are encouraged, and can be given to a member of the editorial staff, or sent to thebellringer2000@hotmail.com. These letters must be signed, but names will be withheld on request. Letters will be edited for length if necessary.

The staff of **The Bell Ringer** prepares all copy, headlines, and photographs at Montgomery Bell Academy. EverReady Printing in Nashville, Tennessee, prints the paper.



Kevin Garnett rejoices after gold medal game.



## How to Get a Homecoming Date

by Patrick Gibbs

If there is one bad thing about Homecoming, it's getting a date. There are many methods for getting a date, but one must be careful not to choose the wrong method.

For some people getting a date is hard, and for some people it is easy. Just because someone has a date already does not mean that he is the mac daddy or anything, it just means that he knows who he wanted to take, or he has a girlfriend. Some guys think that they are the bomb because their dates are pretty. Some people just take friends. Whatever happens, there is always a method involved. Here follows a list of methods:

1. The girlfriend method (a): "I have a girlfriend, I'm set." This is a good and easy method which has survived throughout the years.

1. The girlfriend method (b): "I had a girlfriend and I asked her to homecoming and now we aren't dating anymore; I'm screwed." This is a bad and easy method. You have messed up. You're homecoming will most likely be horrible, unless you find some brilliant way to make the night fun.

2. The early decision: "I don't want to worry about it, so I'll just ask someone early." An easy method, but one must make sure that this girl does not have a boyfriend by the time that the Homecoming dance arrives.

3. The I like her, and she likes me method: "I like her, and she likes me. Why not?" This method proves to be very effective. If you both like each other, then the night will be fun.

4. Take a friend: "I just want to be with my friends." How sweet. Of course, this method is the most logical, since you will have fun if you use it.

5. Ask a younger girl: "I'm a senior; I'll take a sophomore." Cool! I guess. Whatever floats your boat, eh.

6. Ask an older girl: "As if." But go for it, if your ego is that big.

7. They can't say no: "She can't say no." Exactly. If that's the way you are looking at it, then you are taking the wrong person. Your night: Sitting around not talking to your date. You'll probably be just looking at her all night.

8. The primary, secondary, etc. method: This method is complex and should be regarded as

dangerous. One chooses a primary (A), a secondary (B), and maybe a tertiary (C). If A is already going with someone ask B. Reminder: never say anything that could lead to the girl thinking that you said this, "Well, A and B are already taken, so will you go with me."

9. Waiting until the last

week: "Whoops!" I chose this method this year. It isn't that bad, but everyone in the world badgers you about whom you should ask. You: "Hey! I don't want your suggestions, OK!" Them: "Just think about it." You: "Maybe." Probably. I don't like suggestions, but I'll have to take a suggestion since I

have less than one week to decide. Don't be too concerned, everything will be ok. Remember, it's just a dance.

That concludes my session on methods for asking someone to Homecoming. There are a couple more methods, but I don't want to offend anybody. Just remember not to fear Homecoming, it's supposed to be fun.

## Damn Yankees Review

Cont. from p. 1

and the young Joe "Hardy" Boyd was played well by Voigt and

"Whitehog" Batchelor, whose band made a strong showing in the play (Robinson as a dancing and singing ball player, and Nemer as the drummer of the band). Batchelor's portrayal of an old man was flawless, especially since his voice was soft and slightly feeble, while Voigt's portrayal of the young, enthusiastic version of Boyd was vibrant and full of life. Voigt's entrance is filled with a burst of energy that he retains through every word of his opening song.

Audrey Ball and Aaron Manier portrayed the devilish side

Boyd's soul proved to be comical and

shocker. Around campus he is a quiet man, but when showtime comes, don't expect anything but 150% from the T-man.

Another great addition to the team was the crazy antics of Cal Alexander and Adam Brooks. When one puts those two together, he better expect to see some energy.

The dancers were very well synchronized and brought good variety to the musical. Corey Chokley's role as the lead dancer in the mambo scene is unmatched. There was one bad aspect of the play, however. Instead of *Damn Yankees*, the play

should have been called *Damn Microphones*. Ha, Ha, Ha!.....ha.....hooo. The technical difficulties made many parts of the play difficult to understand. Despite this glitch in the sound system, the players

diabolic.

Grace Clayton's interpretation of Doris brought many moments of brainless humor for the audience to enjoy without having to think too much. Her crazy character was a hoot.

The choreography, however, was the most amazing aspect of the play. The baseball team astonished me with their precision singing and dancing, since most of the actors were not singers or dancers. The music provided humor through its lyrics and its contrasts in pitches. Maybe it's just me, but big people singing

high notes and small people singing low notes makes me laugh.

Personally, seeing Tucker Robinson sing in tune and dance perfectly in formation was a real



Dr. John Griffith and Adam Brooks give much color as Benny Van Buren and Smokey of the Senators



Voigt, as Joe Hardy, Manier, Griffith, and Jessica Turk, as Gloria Thorpe seen here.

of the show as Lola and Applegate. Ball's singing, dancing, and persistent attempts at tempting Boyd were right on, while Manier's devilish grin and sneaky attempts at winning



Batchelor and Elizabeth Edwards, playing Meg Boyd, play a truly loving pair.

pulled off a fantabulous performance which set up hopes for an even better season than last year.